

## **GOVERNOR GRANHOLM'S PLAN TO GROW OUR ECONOMY, SECURE OUR FUTURE:** **OVERALL ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **GOVERNOR GRANHOLM HAS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO CREATE JOBS AND BOOST MICHIGAN'S ECONOMY**

She will "go anywhere and do anything" to create, retain, and grow jobs in Michigan. And, she is fighting hard to protect our families and educate our children. Governor Granholm puts Michigan first.

#### **GROWING THE ECONOMY**

The Governor is going anywhere and doing anything to create jobs for Michigan workers, and direct action by her administration is convincing major corporations to create jobs and expand in Michigan. Keebler relocated its headquarters from Illinois to Battle Creek. Toyota is putting 400 people to work in York Township at its new Technical Center. When manufacturing jobs left Greenville for Mexico, Governor Granholm stepped in and helped convince United Solar Ovonic to open a new manufacturing facility there. The Governor has met face to face with businesses from across the country and around the world – and her leadership is paying off. Her investment missions to Japan have attracted more than 1,030 new jobs and more than \$200 million in new investment from Japanese companies. But the Governor knows we have a lot more to do to create good paying jobs so our kids can stay in Michigan and work in Michigan. That's why she has a comprehensive Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow plan, which includes a new, \$2 billion 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs for Michigan Fund that will diversify our economy and create thousands of jobs. From cutting taxes for businesses to matching out-of-work citizens with jobs that exist right now, Granholm is working hard every day to turn our economy around.

#### **PROTECTING OUR FAMILIES AND OUR CHILDREN**

Granholm knows that Michigan must ensure the health and safety of our families and our children to maintain our excellent quality of life. That's why in just three years, her administration has made it possible for more than 292,000 uninsured or under-insured citizens to receive affordable prescription drug coverage and health care coverage; and they've created the MiRx drug discount program that's helping 35,000 Michiganders purchase prescriptions. To protect our children, she's gone after sex and violence in video games. Our neighborhoods are also safer after her administration put more than 1,400 dangerous parole violators and more than 800 sex offenders back behind bars.

#### **EDUCATING OUR KIDS**

Governor Granholm knows the best path to a bright economic future is a high-quality education. Our children deserve to reach their full potential in a safe environment with the tools they need to succeed. That's why the Governor created Project Great Start to increase access to quality child care in Michigan communities and to give parents the tools they need to be their child's first and most important teacher. The Governor is also working to create higher standards in Michigan's high schools so that all students are prepared for success in college and in life. She is fighting to make Michigan the first state in the nation to make college or vocational training accessible and affordable for every child in the state. And, despite eliminating almost \$4 billion in budget shortfalls – more than any other governor before her – Governor Granholm's 2006 budget increased funding for Michigan's K-12 schools to record levels, while asking schools to do more to help kids learn.

## **GRANHOLM ADMINISTRATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR MICHIGAN'S EDUCATION SYSTEM**

Governor Granholm is committed to ensuring that every person in the state of Michigan has access to high-quality education. Governor Granholm's administration has:

### *Invested in K-12 Education*

- **K-12 Funding is at an All-Time High.** Due to the Governor's initiative, state funding for K-12 public education is at an all-time high of \$6,875 per pupil, and she is proposing an additional increase in her 2007 budget to bring per-pupil funding to \$7,075.
- **Safer Schools.** Governor Granholm led the fight to keep sexual predators away from Michigan's schools. She signed legislation that will ensure that sexual predators cannot harm children while they are riding the bus, playing on the school playground, learning in classrooms, or while they are at day-care. She has called for tough, new anti-bullying legislation, and she also wants to make teacher colleges help new teachers learn how to maintain classroom discipline.
- **Signed legislation allowing school districts to develop and implement Early Intervention Programs for students in grades K-3.** These programs will help identify educational and behavioral barriers students may face that would prevent them from succeeding in the classroom. School districts will create Early Intervention Programs that monitor student performance, identify individual challenges, and provide additional support services including reading, writing, math, visual memory, motor skill development, and behavior or language development.
- **Signed Legislation Establishing a New Rigorous High School Curriculum in Michigan.** The legislation signed by the Governor requires: four credits of math and English language arts; three credits of science and social studies; two credits of foreign language; one credit of physical education and health; one credit of visual, performing, or applied arts; one online learning experience. The new curriculum will help ensure that every student in Michigan is prepared for college or technical training when they finish high school.
- **Launched Early Childhood Education.** Governor Granholm launched the Project Great Start initiative and the Great Parents, Great Start (GPGS) program. GPGS was designed to improve school readiness and encourage literacy and parent involvement in children from birth to age five. The Governor was behind the change in rules for Michigan day-care providers which stipulate they are required to read for 30 minutes a day to children in their care. And Governor Granholm also approved the formation of a new non-profit public corporation, the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC), to coordinate state and local efforts to promote early childhood development activities in Michigan.
- **Increased Accountability for School Districts.** Governor Granholm believes we should hold our schools to high standards and give them the support they need to achieve those standards. She has pushed for comprehensive improvement plans at schools that are not meeting academic goals. And Governor Granholm has signed new laws to encourage broader participation in the approval of an intermediate school district's budget and to require schools to advertise for bids for construction, repair, or renovation for a two-week period.

- **Repaired Decaying Public Schools.** Governor Granholm proposed making it easier for school districts to borrow \$500 million to upgrade schools and repair older school buildings.
- **Expanded high quality after-school programs.** Governor Granholm is fighting to create after-school math, science, and computer programs that will help middle school kids get ready for the new higher standards in our high schools.

*Invested in Higher Education*

- **Cherry Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth.** The Granholm administration conducted a comprehensive review of higher education needs and goals for the state of Michigan. The blue-ribbon Cherry Commission produced a document citing 19 recommendations for change in Michigan's education system to help Michigan transition into the new 21<sup>st</sup> century knowledge-based economy. Under the leadership of the Governor and the Lt. Governor, Michigan now has a plan to make college open to all, and to double the number of college graduates.
- **New \$4,000 Merit Scholarship.** The Governor continues to push for the New Merit Scholarship which will guarantee every student who successfully completes two years of college or technical training a \$4,000 scholarship – an amount roughly equal to two years of community college tuition.
- **\$225 Million in Scholarships.** In 2005, the Office of Scholarships and Grants assisted students by providing approximately \$225,900,000 to help them attend college.
- **\$39 Million in Student Loans.** In 2005, the Michigan Higher Education Student Loan Authority's MI-LOAN program disbursed more than \$39 million in alternative student loans to assist Michigan students attending Michigan colleges and universities.
- **Modernized Michigan Colleges and Universities.** In 2005, Governor Granholm signed legislation authorizing accelerated construction projects for 11 universities and 13 community colleges, totaling \$200 million.